

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8479

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3081

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EXDIS

FROM LOS USDEL

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMB. LEARSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: DAILY LOS REPORT FOR THE SECRETARY

REF: STATE 190948

1. THIS IS THE FIRST OF DAILY REPORTS TO YOU
COVERING DEVELOPMENTS THE PREVIOUS DAY AND
ANTICIPATED PROBLEMS.

2. PRESS AND FOREIGN DELEGATIONS VERY INTERESTED IN YOUR
PLANS FOR ATTENDING CONFERENCE.

3. CONFERENCE DECIDED COMMITTEES WILL IDENTIFY AND FOCUS
NEGOTIATIONS ON MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES. OUR EFFORT WILL
BE TO KEEP CERTAIN ISSUES THAT ARE TREATED WELL FROM OUR
POINT OF VIEW OFF THE LISTS, E.G. STRAITS. AMERASINGHE TOLD
ME INCLUSION OF STRAITS ON HIS PRELIMINARY LIST WAS A
QTE MISTAKE UNQTE.

4. MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO JENS EVENSEN OF NORWAY
WILL PRESIDE OVER THE CONFERENCE WHILE AMERASINGHE IS
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IN COLOMBO (AUGUST 6 TO ABOUT AUGUST 23). EVENSEN IS

WIDELY RESPECTED.

5. THE LDC'S WANT TO WREST CONTROL OF THE COMMITTEE I
NEGOTIATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN ENGO (CAMEROON). THE PROBLEM
IS THAT QTE GIVING CONTROL TO THE COMMITTEE UNQTE MAY
PRODUCE UNWORKABLE PROCEDURES AND STRENGTHEN THE HANDS OF
EXTREMISTS, LED BY THE ARABS (ALGERIA, EGYPT AND TUNISIA).
INDIA TELLS US IT WILL PROPOSE THE STRAGERED ACCESS
SYSTEM IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. CANADA WILL SEEK MORE
STRINGENT SEABED PRODUCTION CONTROLS TO PROTECT ITS LAND-BASED
NICKEL PRODUCTION.

6. THE CANADIAN CABINET HAS DECIDED ON THE ARCTIC/
STRAITS PACKAGE, BUT CANADIAN DEL TOLD US WE WILL HAVE
TO AWAIT ARRIVAL OF AMB. BEESLEY (AUG. 11 OR 12) TO GET
OFFICIAL RESPONSE. DECISION IS APPARENTLY POSITIVE, BUT
WITH UNSPECIFIED CONDITIONS ON STRAITS. CANADIANS HAD NO
RESPONSE WHEN WE INQUIRED WHY ANSWER WOULD NOT COME SOONER
FROM MACEACHEN TO YOU IN VIEW OF YOUR INQUIREY.

7. AN ENLARGED QTE GROUP OF COATAL STATES ON THE ECONOMIC
ZONE UNQTE OF ABOUT 60 HAS EMERGED UNDER MEXICAN LEADERSHIP.
CANADA, NORWAY, AND AUSTRALIA PREVENTED AGREEMENT IN
GROUP TO ANNOUNCE OPPOSITION TO HIGH SEAS STATUS OF ECONOMIC
ZONE. PERU DID THIS ANYWAY, AND WE DEMURRED. MAIN
PURPOSE OF GROUP IS PROBABLY TO RESIST LANDLOCKED/
GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED DEMANDS REGARDING RESOURCE
SHARING IN ECONOMIC ZONE.

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